

**Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Project Profile**  
**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**Updated: February 15, 2001**

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program

<b>Focus Areas Funded</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Epidemiology and Surveillance - Core</li> <li>• Laboratory Capacity for Biologic Agents</li> <li>• Health Alert Network</li> </ul>
<b>North Dakota has strengthened its capacity to respond to threats of bioterrorism by:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing renovations of the BSL-3 laboratory and the PCR laboratory</li> <li>• Implementing new procedures and quality assurance measures in accordance with level B laboratory protocols</li> <li>• Updating the list of Mandatory Reportable Conditions to include select bioterrorism agents and weapons of mass destruction (suspected event)</li> <li>• Completing PCR training at the University Hygienic Laboratory in Iowa City</li> <li>• Providing training to the North Dakota Highway Patrol on their role in transport of potential bioterrorism specimens</li> <li>• Developing specimen transport kits and protocols for the 8 Highway Patrol district offices across the state</li> <li>• Developing an Internet site for the laboratory and a bioterrorism web page</li> <li>• Participating in 3 exercises: a simulated WMD event, an integrated emergency management course, and a WMD tabletop exercise</li> <li>• Installing satellite downlink systems in 9 local public health units that will serve as regional training sites</li> <li>• Enhancing local communications capacity with improved Internet connectivity, blast fax machines, and other equipment</li> <li>• Meeting with local community leaders to initiate planning and surveillance efforts in preparation for a bioterrorism event</li> <li>• Developing a Department of Health bioterrorism response plan</li> <li>• Educating partners such as the ND Association of Practitioners of Infection Control, Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, Game and Fish Department, and Veterinarians Association</li> </ul>
<b>Project Year 2 Plans (August 31, 2000-August 30, 2001) include:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining capabilities for Level B laboratory requirements and working to achieve Level C capacity</li> <li>• Strengthening partnerships with Level A laboratories</li> <li>• Improving the information technology infrastructure among local public health units around the state</li> <li>• Improving access to satellite downlink programming and other public health training opportunities</li> <li>• Participating in the Montana-Dakotas-Idaho regional epidemiology and surveillance consortium</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Information</b>	<p><b>Principal Investigator</b></p> <p>Larry Shireley State Epidemiologist</p>

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<b>Key Emergency Contacts</b>	<table> <tr> <td>Federal Emergency Management Agency:</td> <td>(303) 235-4812</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Emergency Management Agency:</td> <td>(701) 328-3300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Federal Bureau of Investigation:</td> <td>(612) 376-3200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Public Health Agency:</td> <td>(701) 328-2372</td> </tr> </table>	Federal Emergency Management Agency:	(303) 235-4812	State Emergency Management Agency:	(701) 328-3300	Federal Bureau of Investigation:	(612) 376-3200	State Public Health Agency:	(701) 328-2372
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<b>Anecdotes</b>									

3/23/2001